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Child support system to speed up under Sen. Patterson's bill

LANSING – The Senate today passed a bill speeding up the collection procedure for child support payments, announced the bill sponsor Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton.

Under Senate Bill 1448, the child support lien network would be notified as soon as any arrearage exceeds two months' support payments as ordered. This would hasten the collection process and assist the recipient to more quickly receive the support.

"Arrearages of any kind hurt children," Patterson said. "In the past, the system of collection has allowed arrearages to grow to greater size, to much greater hurt. By making the gears move sooner, I am certain we can lessen the impact of harm."

When he was a state representative in 2002, Patterson sponsored legislation to increase the efficiency of the Friend of the Court and Office of Child Support in dealing with domestic support issues. The efficiency was to bring direct benefit to the children needing child support from an absent parent.

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